

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AEC-11 AF-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NASA-04 NEA-10

NSAE-00 NSC-07 OIC-04 SP-03 PA-04 PRS-01 RSC-01

SCI-06 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 /206 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/IR:REINHORN:LSQ

APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:RHMILLER

ACDA/IR:WGIVAN

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DOD/ISA:CAPT WMARTIN

EUR/NE:S.DAWKINS

PM/DCA:R.MARTIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 072979

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS (ROB) STUDY GROUP

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REF: LONDON 4504 (NOTAL)

1. WITH REGARD TO SOMMERHAYES' COMMENT ON APR 4 (REFTEL) HAT NEW UK GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET MADE UP ITS MIND ON SENDING EXPERT TO ROB STUDY GROUP, YOU SHOULD TELL HIM WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE PRESENCE OF UK EXPERT WOULD MARKEDLY IMPROVE CHANCES FOR A RESPONSIBLE AND WORTHWHILE REPORT. WE THEREFORE HOPE THAT UK GOVERNMENT WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN FINDING SUITABLE CANDIDATE.

2. YOU SHOULD ALSO MENTION THAT FIRST SESSION OF EXPERTS GROUP WILL BE HELD APRIL 16-26 IN GENEVA. WHILE IT WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE DESIRABLE FOR A UK EXPERT TO ATTEND OPENING SESSION, WHEN STUDY'S TERMS OF REFERENCE WILL BE DISCUSSED, WE WOULD EXPECT SECRETARIAT TO PERMIT EXPERTS FROM INVITED COUNTRIES TO JOIN GROUP REASONABLY SOON AFTER FIRST, PRINCIPALLY ORGANIZATIONAL, SESSION.

3. YOU SHOULD ONCE AGAIN POINT OUT THAT WE DO NOT VIEW STUDY GROUP AS GIVING STATUS TO OBJECTIONABLE SOVIET ROB PROPOSAL. NOR DO WE SEE IT AS MEANS OF NEGOTIATING OR IMPLEMENTING BUDGET REDUCTION MEASURES, EITHER SOVIET TEN PERCENT PROPOSAL OR ANY OTHER PROPOSAL. RATHER, WE REGARD STUDY GROUP AS OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE FOR FIRST TIME IN

INTERNATIONAL FORUM A WIDE RANGE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE FEASIBILITY OF BUDGET REDUCTION MEASURES AS WELL AS TO PREVENT SOVIETS FROM EXERTING MAJOR INFLUENCE OVER REPORT AND ITS CONCLUSIONS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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